

Greek National Visas

PLEASE READ THE INFORMATION THOROUGHLY

US & Canadian passport holders may stay in Greece, or another country of the 26 countries making up the Schengen Area, for up to 90 days in a 180 day period. If your stay will be MORE than 90 days in a 180-day period, you MUST obtain a national visa from your local Greek Consulate before arriving in Greece. The process can be lengthy; start right away. If you enter without a visa, you are not eligible to apply for a visa or residence permit in country.

If you are from a country other than the US or Canada, contact your local Greek Consulate directly to learn about your allowed length of stay and visa application requirements.

10 Steps to Obtaining a Greek National Visa

1. Locate the [Greek Consulate](#) for your region and read the online steps for obtaining a National Visa.
2. Download and complete the Greek National Visa Application Form from the Greek Consulate website.
3. Request [a Letter of Acceptance \(LOA\) from ACT in Greek](#). Complete this form to receive your letter. This takes up to two weeks to process.
4. Passport. Ensure it is valid for at least three months after the date you plan to depart from the Schengen Area. If you do not have a passport, apply now.
5. Obtain your [Identity History Summary Check](#) (FBI Background Check). This may take 4+ weeks to obtain unless you use an expedited channeler service.
6. Obtain passport size photograph(s) (2x2 in)
7. Call the Consulate where you will apply. Set an appointment **AND** verify the documents required*, fee amount, type of payment accepted and procedure for receiving your passport with the visa affixed.
ALERT: The required documentation & process to apply for a visa varies among Consulates
8. Collect all your documents and make a photocopy of everything for your records.
9. Take all documents to the Consulate for your application appointment.
10. Pick up or receive your visa.

***Commonly Required Application Documents.** Some or all of the following documents will be required in their original form. The consulate may request documents other than those listed on this form.

- Greek National Visa Application
- Letter of Acceptance from ACT in Greek
- Passport
- FBI Identity History Summary check
- Passport size photographs
- Medical form (found on consulate website)
- Comprehensive travel insurance stating that student is covered in a medical emergency
- Travel documents (flight tickets)
- Additional documents from ACT. Request these from Roula Lebetli, rleb@act.edu, as necessary.
- Proof of funds for the duration of stay in Greece
- Bank and credit card statements (or parents/guardians' if they are covering expenses)
- W2 forms for the last two years (or parents/guardians' if they are covering expenses)
- Application fee
- Payment fee for returning your passport to you after the visa has been placed
- Self-addressed envelope for returning your passport to you

Traveling, Duration of Stay & Next Steps

When you arrive into the Schengen Area, it is crucial to ensure that your passport is stamped with the date of entry. Visas are typically valid for the period of several months, up to one year. If you are staying beyond the expiration date of your visa, you may need to apply for a Residence Permit after arriving in Greece. Please request residence permit instructions from studentservices@act.edu if this applies to you.

